IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: HERMAN et al.

Serial No.: 09/649,400   Examiner: not yet known

Filed: August 26, 2000   Art Unit: 2152

For: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR VIRTUAL SEALED-BID
COMPETITIONS HELD OVER A COMMUNICATIONS
NETWORK

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Attn: Box Missing Parts
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application, prior to examination, as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 7, line 9, delete "spreadsheet."

Page 12, line 15, delete "in a spreadsheet."

Page 13, line 14, replace "in a spreadsheet. The spreadsheet is" with --, being--.

Page 18, line 8, replace "spreadsheet" with --bid results--.

Page 21, line 21, insert " bid or" before --spreadsheet--.

Page 40, line 25, replace "spreadsheet" with --display--.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 14, line 3, delete "in a spreadsheet."

Claim 18, line 3, delete "in a spreadsheet."